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EXTENSION OF THE FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR ALBANIA

Note by the Administrator

1. The fourth country programme for Albania was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session 1994 (decision 94/10), for the period January 1994 to December 1996.

2. In view of the current developments in the country, including the recent general elections, a one-year extension of the fourth country programme has been requested. The objectives of the programme remain valid as a basis for UNDP activities in the country, as confirmed by the mid-term review, which was held in April 1996. The areas of concentration of the fourth country programme are: (a) alleviation of the social impact of structural economic reforms, focusing on job creation and the creation of appropriate institutional and legal frameworks; (b) human resource development, including a focus on human rights and the consolidation of democratic processes; and (c) national capacity-building, including management training and the restructuring of key sectors in both the public and private domain. Particular emphasis is being given to programmes addressing poverty alleviation as well as issues of concern to women within the UNDP mandate for sustainable human development.

3. The first country cooperation framework for the next period of UNDP cooperation with Albania will be submitted to the Executive Board in 1998.

4. Against this background, the Administrator wishes to inform the Executive Board that he has approved the extension of the fourth country programme for Albania for a period of one year, beginning 1 January 1997.

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